



Republican Policy Committee

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HISTORIC VOTE TO BALANCE BUDGET AT HAND

- Today, both the House and Senate will vote on a plan to balance the Federal budget by FY 2002. After decades of talking about just **reducing** the deficit, Congress will vote on a plan to **eliminate** the deficit.
- The Republican plan (the only plan in town that balances the budget) is based on conservative estimates, uses no smoke and mirrors, and delivers on our promise to control spending while reducing America's tax burden.
- Important programs are preserved and strengthened, including Medicare. Others are returned to the states, like Medicaid. And just as Republicans promised, Social Security isn't touched.
- Many redundant or outdated programs, commissions, and agencies are phased out. The Commerce Department is eliminated, and Congressional and White House spending is squeezed as well.
- Republicans reform welfare, reintroducing to the system work and responsibility that for too long has been missing.
- The dramatic attack on defense spending over the past few years is softened, and more money is focused on readiness and personnel, to buttress our forces.
- Finally, Republicans put a novel proposition to Washington — that Americans keep more of what they earn at home, rather than turning it over to the IRS. The budget contains a credible tax relief package of \$245 billion, triggered when the CBO says that all spending reduced will make room available for tax cuts.
- Today brings the change of November to the floor of the Congress. We're voting on a plan for America's future, and for our children.